

IN THE CLAIMS

1 (Currently Amended). A toy comprising:
a plurality of ~~electrically controllable elements~~ electromagnets; and
a controller to selectively actuate said electromagnets ~~elements~~ to position a play piece in three dimensions without physically contacting said play piece.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

3 (Currently Amended). The toy of claim 1 ~~2~~ including a three dimensional structure having at least one surface.

4 (Currently Amended). The toy of claim 3 wherein said surface includes a matrix of ~~elements~~ electromagnets.

5 (Currently Amended). The toy of claim 4 wherein structure is in the form of a rectangular box having at least four walls, each of said walls including an array of electrically controllable ~~elements~~ electromagnets.

6 (Original). The toy of claim 5 wherein said box is fluid tight.

7 (Original). The toy of claim 5 wherein said box contains a liquid.

8 (Original). The toy of claim 1 including a play piece having a permanent magnet.

9 (Original). The toy of claim 8 wherein said play piece is neutrally buoyant.

10 (Original). The toy of claim 1 including a controller to determine the location of said play piece in three dimensions.

11 (Original). The toy of claim 1 including an input device that enables a user to specify a position of the play piece in three dimensions, said controller adapted to position said play piece in response to a user input command.

12 (Currently Amended). A method comprising:
receiving a play piece position command; and
in response to receipt of said command, applying current to selected electromagnets in a matrix of electromagnets to control the position of the ~~developing a plurality of signals to control electrically controllable elements to position a~~ play piece in three dimensions without physically contacting said play piece.

Claim 13 (Canceled).

14 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 12 ~~13~~ including applying current to electromagnets oriented in a three dimensional structure.

15 (Original). The method of claim 14 including causing said play piece to move in a liquid environment.

16 (Currently Amended). The method of claim 12 including detecting induced currents in said electromagnets ~~elements~~ in order to locate the position of said play piece.

17 (Original). The method of claim 16 including converting said induced currents into position signals and displaying the position of said play piece.

18 (Currently Amended). An article comprising a medium storing instructions that, if executed, enable a processor-based system to:
receive a play piece position command; and
in response to receipt of said command, apply current to selected electromagnets in a matrix of electromagnets to position the ~~develop a plurality of signals to control electrically~~

~~controllable elements to position~~ a play piece in three dimensions without physically contacting said play piece.

Claim 19 (Canceled).

20 (Currently Amended). The article of claim 18 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to use induced currents in said electromagnets elements in order to locate the position of said play piece.

21 (Original). The article of claim 20 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to receive information about said induced current, convert said information into position signals, and display the position of a play piece.